

A Catalogue of the Birds in the Collection of the Bombay Natural History Society—13

Alcedinidae

BY

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[Continued from Vol. 69 (2) : 389]

717 *Ceryle lugubris continentalis* Hartert (Sikkim) West Himalayan Pied Kingfisher 4 : 248

13 : 4 ♂♂ 7 ♀♀ 2 ♂?

5 Simla Hills ; 1 Ramgarh, 2 Almora, U.P. ; 1 Coffeebari, Darjeeling ; 2 Kur-seong, 1 Teesta River, Singtam, Sikkim ; 1 no data.

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
♂♂	180, 182, 183(2) (IH 177-186	63, 65(2), 70 from skull 68-80	14(3), 15 12-14	102, 106, 107, 112 103-114)
♀♀	180-187 av. 184 (IH 178-195	65-72 av. 67 from skull 69-75	14-15 13-15	105-112 av. 108.5 98-112)

Sikkim is an unfortunate type locality for a ' West Himalayan ' form !

718 *Ceryle lugubris guttulata* Stejneger (Ningpo, China) East Himalayan Pied Kingfisher 4 : 248

1 ♂ Tezu, Lohit Valley, Assam.

Wing 187 ; bill 72 ; tarsus 15 ; tail 114.

The single specimen, together with two yet unregistered females from Central Bhutan, are more grey and slightly darker on the upperparts. One of the two from Bhutan marked ' ♀+' lacks the rufous underwing found in females of both races.

EL *Ceryle rudis rudis* (Linnaeus) (Egypt) Western Small Pied King- fisher

4 : 2 ♂♂ (by plumage) 2 ♀♀

1 *Suleimaniyah*, 1 *Kurna*, *Tigris*, 1 *Basra*, *Iraq* ; 1 *Bikraz*, *Persian Gulf*.

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
♂♀	142-147	58-61	10-11	79, 80, 81(2)

In addition to being larger than *leucomelanura*, this race has black spots on the white basal half of the tail, contra all-white. The basal

portion of the outer web of the 3rd primary is also black with two white spots instead of all-white.

719 *Ceryle rudis leucomelanura* Reichenbach (Ceylon) Indian Pied Kingfisher 4 : 246

26 : 14 ♂♂ (2 by plumage) 12 ♀♀ (2 by plumage).

2 Chakala, Rawalpindi ; 1 Lahore, 2 Meerut ; 1 Dadu, Larkana, Sind ; 1 Marval, Rajputana ; 1 Cutch, 1 Deesa, Palanpur, 1 Saiat, Kaira, 1 Gir Forest ; 1 Khamgaon, Dhond, 1 Satara ; 1 Najti-Saran (T. R. Bell 1901 = N. Kanara ?) ; 1 Koduru, S. Cuddapah ; 1 Saugor, M.P. ; 1 Barkul, Chilka Lake, Orissa ; 1 Rajputtee, 4 Tirhut, Bihar ; 1 Roopchena, Cachar, 1 Dibrugarh ; 2 *Myogwin*, *Henzada*, *Burma*.

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
♂♂	130-141 av. 136 (IH 133-142)	56-64 from skull 66-68	10-11 10-12	61-73 66-70)
♀♀	135-143 av. 139 (IH 139-141)	60-63 from skull 61-70	9-10 10-13	67-73 65-75)

There is considerable variation in the amount of black or white visible on the head and upper plumage, partly due to the preparation of the skin. No. 11241, a ♀ from Dibrugarh, Assam, is very black above and shows little or no white.

720 *Ceryle rudis travancoreensis* Whistler & Kinnear (Travancore) Kerala Pied Kingfisher
nil.

721 *Alcedo hercules* Laubmann (Darjeeling) Blyth's or Great Blue Kingfisher 4 : 258
nil.

Alcedo atthis

Three subspecies, *pallasii*, *bengalensis*, and *taprobana* are accepted from Indian limits in IND. HANDBOOK as in Stuart Baker's FAUNA. Birds from the same area differ in colour, presumably by age, and the differences in size are barely visible in series, making it very difficult to trinomially name most of the specimens.

The bird is said to be migratory, but nothing is known of its movements in India, and it is quite possible as suggested by Ticehurst (*Ibis* 1923 : 32) that more than one race occurs in the same area.

In all three groups the juveniles have their underparts very pale whitish rufous, with patches of pure white on the belly, but this does not appear to be referred to in the literature available. Some in later (?) plumage show grey or bluish edges to the feathers of the upper breast and, until the adult plumage with completely rufous underparts (excluding the

white chin) is attained, the upper parts are paler tending towards those of *pallasii* (a).

The few which definitely appear to be *pallasii* and *taprobana* have been grouped together under sub-headings (a) and other specimens from the same area, which could well be included with *bengalensis*, are placed with them under sub-heading (b).

722 *Alcedo atthis pallasii* Reichenbach (Siberia) Central Asian Small Blue Kingfisher 4 : 253

22 : 9 ♂♂ 10 ♀♀ 3 o ?

(a) 11 : 4 ♂♂ 5 ♀♀ 2 o ? (1 juv.)

1 Lake Akkakurf, nr. Baghdad, 1 Basra, Iraq; 1 Mishun, Persian Gulf; 1 Bander-e-Gaz, Asterabad, 2 Pir-i-Bam, Shiraz, 1 Sib, Iran; 1 Hajarganji, 27°28'N-65°10'E, Baluchistan; 1 Wana, Waziristan; 1 Jajja Abbasian, Bahawalpur; 1 Kashgar.

(b) 11 : 5 ♂♂ 5 ♀♀ 1 o ?

1 Jabli, Bhagat State, 1 Gama-ki-Hatti, Dharmi State, 2 Simla; 1 Madhopur, 1 Machiasen, Ludhiana; 2 Jagadhri, Ambala; 2 Delhi; 1 Bageshwar, Almora, U.P.

Group (a) has pale upperparts and the two from Iraq are marked *pallasii* by Ticehurst (?) and are so listed in the report on the Birds of Mesopotamia (*JBNHS* 28 : 302).

Group (b) is not different from *bengalensis* in color and is only slightly larger in series :

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
Group (a) ♂♀	72-76 av. 73.4	35-43 av. 38.3	9-10	30-36 av. 33
Group (b) ♂♀	70-76 av. 73	35-40 av. 37.6	9-10	30-35 av. 32.3
	(IH ♂♀ 71-77	—	9-11	31-36)
<i>bengalensis</i> ♂♀	67-74 av. 71.7	35-41 av. 36	9	29-36 av. 32
	(IH ♂♀ 68-74	—	8-10	30-37)
<i>taprobana</i> (a) ♂♀	69-74 av. 71.5	35-38 av. 35.8	9	30-34 av. 31.7
<i>taprobana</i> (b) ♂♀	69, 70, 74	34, 35, 37	9(3)	30, 31(2)
	(IH ♂♀ 67-73	—	8-9	29-33)

723 *Alcedo atthis bengalensis* Gmelin (Bengal) Indian Small Blue Kingfisher 4 : 250

35 : 16 ♂♂ 14 ♀♀ 5 o ?

1 Hamavas Lake, Pali Dt., Rajasthan; 1 Balaram, Palanpur, Gujarat, 2 Ganges Canal, Aligarh; 1 Sanchi, Bhopal State, 1 Chikalda, Berar; 1 Bhopalpatnam-Bastar, 1 Gondia, 1 Central Provinces; 1 Barkul, Chilka Lake, 1 Mahendra, giri; 3 Baghowni, Bihar; 1 Bhuguwda, Nepal; 1 Buxa Duars, 1 Kurseong, 1 Longview Tea Estate, Darjeeling; 1 Seooki, Tista Valley, Sikkim; 1 Dibrugarh, 2 Margherita, 1 Tezu, Lohit Valley, 1 Laising 2 N. Cachar, Assam; 3 South Andamans; 1 Car Nicobar; 2 Camorta, Central Nicobars; 1 Campbell Bay, Great Nicobars; 1 Toga Chaung, Thayetmyo Dt.; 2 Prome Dt., Burma; 1 no data.

The measurements are under 722. As explained earlier several in *pallasii* and *taprobana* are hardly separable from *bengalensis*.

The specimens from M.P. and Orissa are *slightly* darker above, showing a similarity to *taprobana*.

724 *Alcedo atthis taprobana* Kleinschmidt (Ceylon) Ceylon Small Blue Kingfisher **4 : 252**

9 : 4 ♂♂ 2 ♀♀ 3 o ?

(a) 6 : 4 ♂♂ 1 ♀ 1 o ?

1 Saiat, Kaira, 1 Dhari, Amreli ; 1 Karwar, N. Kanara ; 2 Nilambur Valley, 1 Tenmalai, S. Travancore.

The birds from Gujarat are dated 12 December and 20 January, while the two from Nilambur Valley are the richest in colour, both above and below.

(b) 3 : 1 ♀ 2 o ?

1 Uran, Bombay ; 1 Karwar, N. Kanara ; 1 Cumbum Valley.

These may be included with *bengalensis*, but the Karwar bird (No. 11276) has a 34 mm bill and *may* be immature *taprobana*. In Eastern Ghats Report (*JBNHS* 37 : 760) Whistler said with reference to the Cumbum Valley specimen and other specimens from the Madras Presidency : ' All the specimens which I have examined from the Presidency, south of the Godavery River, most certainly belong to the very blue Cinghalese race and not to *Alcedo a. bengalensis*.'

725 *Alcedo meninting coltarti* Baker (Saddya, Assam) Assam Blue-eared Kingfisher **4 : 256**

6 : 2 ♂♂ (juv.) 2 ♀♀ 2 o ?

1 Dhurdhura Chamba, Simlipal Hills, Orissa ; 1 Gama Res., Goalpara, 1 Goalpara, 1 Margherita, 1 Assam ; 1 *Ataran, Burma*.

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
♂♀	66-70 av. 68 (IH 62-74	37-40 (4 only) from skull 43-45	7 c. 9	27-30 av. 28.3 28-30)

Two birds from the Andamans under *rufigaster* (726a) are separable but I have already (*JBNHS* 64 : 174) indicated that examination of a larger series at the British Museum did not appear to justify this separation. If so, Walden's *rufigaster* is an older name.

726 *Alcedo meninting phillipsi* Baker (Cocoawatte Estate, Ceylon) Ceylon Blue-eared Kingfisher **4 : 255**

1 o ? Wing 64 ; bill 40 ; tarsus 8 ; tail 27.

The forehead does not show a greenish tinge.

726a *Alcedo meninting rufigaster* Walden (South Andaman Island)
Andaman Blue-eared Kingfisher 4 : 257

2 ♂♂ 1 Long Island, Middle Andamans ; 1 Shoalbay Creek, South Andaman.

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
	65, 68	—, 40	8, 9	27, 30
(♂♀ 1H 63-71)	—	—	—	27-30)

See remarks under 725

727 *Ceyx erithacus erithacus* (Linnaeus) (Benghala) Indian Threetoed
Forest Kingfisher 4 : 226

10 : 5 ♂♂ 3 ♀♀ 2 o ?

1 Bandra, 1 Dadar, 2 Bombay City ; 1 Kadra, 1 Sunksal, 1 Gersoppa, N. Kanara ;
 1 Point Calimere, Tamil Nadu ; 1 Goalpara, 1 Cachar, Assam.

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
♂♀	54-60 av. 57	31-34 av. 32.5	8-9	22-29
	(1H 53-61)	from skull 32-37	c. 7-8	21-24)

Except for one obtained at Gersoppa on 24 April, all the others were taken between 13 May (Assam) and ? October (Point Calimere). Two of the three from N. Kanara have more lilac on the head than the others.

728 *Ceyx erithacus macrocarus* Oberholser (Great Nicobar) Nicobar
Threetoed Forest Kingfisher 4 : 262

1 o ? Campbell Bay, Great Nicobar.

As indicated in my Nicobar report (*JBNHS* 64 : 174), I am unable to separate this and several others examined, from both the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, from the nominate form.

728a *Ceyx erithacus rufidorsus* Strickland (Malacca).

1 o ? Sikkim Terai. 22 July 1909.

(See Abdulali, *JBNHS* 61 : 439).

729 *Pelargopsis amauroptera* (Pearson) (Calcutta) Brownwinged
Storkbilled Kingfisher 4 : 263

nil.

730 *Pelargopsis capensis capensis* (Linnaeus) (Chandernagor, Bengal)
Brownheaded Storkbilled Kingfisher 4 : 265

25 : 11 ♂♂ 7 ♀♀ 7 o ?

1 Balaram, Palanpur, 1 Dediapada, Rajpipla, 1 Waghai, Surat Dangs, Gujarat ;
 1 Pili, Melghat, 2 Kolkaz, Berar ; 1 Bijiwar, Indore ; 1 Central Province ; 1
 Jalavi (T. R. Bell=Karwar), 1 Kala Nadi, Kanara ; 1 Balghar, Puri, 1 Narmada
 Lake, Champaner, Orissa ; 1 Baghowni, 1 Madhubani, 1 Anarh, Darbhanga,
 1 Rajputtee, Saran, Bihar ; 1 Bhimtal, 1 Nainital, Kumaon, 1 Pilibhit, 1 Long-
 view T.E., Darjeeling, 1 Kurseong ; 1 Camp Pishnu, 1 Goalpara, 1 Margherita,
 Assam ; 1 no data.

[237]

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
♂♂	154-160 av. 157 (IH 147-163	79-90 av. 86 from skull 84-93	17-19 17-20	94-106 av. 100 94-110)
♀♀	148-162 av. 156 (IH 155-168	74-89 av. 82 from skull 86-94	17-18 17-20	97-105 av. 99.8 95-105)

In series the central and west Indian birds have slightly darker heads and upperparts than those from the east. There is no appreciable difference in size.

731a *Pelargopsis capensis osmastoni* (Baker) (Andaman Islands)
Andaman Storkbilled Kingfisher

2 ♀♀ : 1 Long Island, Middle Andamans ; 1 Chirria Tapoo, South Andamans.
Wing 147, 157 ; bill 86, 87 ; tarsus 17, 18 ; tail 94, 98.

732 *Pelargopsis capensis intermedia* Hume (Galatea Bay, Great Nicobar Island) Nicobar Storkbilled Kingfisher 4 : 264

1 ♀ Campbell Bay, Great Nicobar.
Wing 152 ; bill 85 ; tarsus 18 ; tail 100.

EL *Pelargopsis capensis burmanica* Sharpe (Taunghoo, Burma)
Burmese Storkbilled Kingfisher 4 : 266

3 : 1 ♂ 1 ♀ 1 o ?
1 Kuzaik, Lower Chindwin ; 1 Taungyi, S. Shan States ; 1 Pankai, Prome Dist., Burma.

Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
155, 159, 162 (146-165	81, 86(2) 72-84	16, 17(2) —	100, 107, 109 —)

733 *Halcyon coromanda coromanda* (Latham) (Coromandel, India)
Indian Ruddy Kingfisher 4 : 273

2 o ? : 1 Pyaungaung, N. Shan States, 1 Arakan Yoma, Burma

Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
121, — (IH 106-121	55, 61 from skull 60-63	16, 16 18, 19	66, — 60-71)

734 *Halcyon coromanda mizorhina* (Oberholser) (North Andaman Island) Andaman Ruddy Kingfisher 4 : 274
nil.

Halcyon smyrnensis

As in *Alcedo atthis* the three subspecies accepted for continental Indian limits i.e. *smyrnensis*, *fusca*, and *perpulchra* cannot be separated with any degree of certainty. Three young birds, all from the range of *smyrnensis*, are duller and greenish blue above, but we have been unable to associate any of the differences in shades of blue and greenish with stages of wear, age, sex, or season. Unlike *A. atthis*, there is no evidence

of migration [though suggested in BIRDS OF THE SOVIET UNION (1 : 583)] and I have grouped them in accordance with the distribution in IND. HANDBOOK.

735 *Halcyon smyrnensis smyrnensis* (Linnaeus) (Smyrna) Whitebreasted Kingfisher 4 : 268

24 : 12 ♂♂ (3 juv.) 6 ♀♀ 6 o ?

1 *Sulaimanyah*, 1 *Kazimain*, 1 *Lake Akkarkuf, nr. Baghdad, Iraq* ; 1 *Bikarz Castle, 1 Pir-i-Bam, 9 m. s. of Shiraz, Persia* ; 1 *Mand, 1 Putak, Quasarqund, Persian Baluchistan*, 1 *Giyan, Kalat, 1 Karung* ; 1 *Keonthal State, 1 Lahore, 1 Maharikpur, 1 Guggar, Ambala* ; 1 *Simla, 3 Delhi, 1 Jumper, Sind* ; 1 *Vaghjipur, Mehsana, 1 Gir Forest, 1 Cambay City, 1 Bodeli, Baroda* ; 1 *Mussoorie, 1 Kumaon, U.P.*

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
♂♂	116-125 av. 121	55-64 av. 61·5	14-16	80-85 av. 82
♀♀	116-135 av. 123·5	60-65 av. 61·5	14-16	78-87 av. 83
	(IH 118-128	from skull 60-67	16-19	77-93)

♀ 11348 from Putak, Quasarqund, Persian Baluchistan, has a 135 mm wing (the next largest is 128 mm), bill 65 cf. 64 in ♂, and tail 87, equalled in another ♀ from Guggar, Ambala.

<i>fusca</i> ♂♂	118-124 av. 120·6	56-62 av. 59·5	14-16	76-83 av. 80
<i>fusca</i> ♀♀	120(2), 124, 125	55, 58, 59(2)	14, 15(3)	78, 79, 83, 85
	(IH 113-124	from skull 56-63	15-16	72-83)
<i>perpulchra</i> ♂♂	118-126 av. 121	60-66 av. 62	15-16	76-84 av. 80
♀♀	117-124 av. 121	53-64 av. 59	14-16	74-84 av. 80
(IH : 'within the range of <i>fusca</i> but somewhat on the smaller side.')				

736 *Halcyon smyrnensis fusca* (Boddaert) (Malabar Coast) Indian Whitebreasted Kingfisher 4 : 269 (part)

18 : 9 ♂♂ 4 ♀♀ 5 o ?

2 *Bharatpur, Rajasthan* ; 2 *Kurla, Thana, 1 Bombay, 1 Satara, 1 Vengurla, 1 Ratnagiri, Maharashtra* ; 1 *Potoli, 1 Karwar, Kanara* ; 1 *Nelliampathy Hills, 1 Perumalmalai, Palnis* ; 1 *Perren Godda, S. Travancore* ; 1 *Kanyakumari* ; 1 *Koduru, Cuddapah* ; 1 *Bina, C.P.* ; 1 *Bulandshahr, U.P.* ; 1 *Navalpur, Nepal.*

Measurements are under 735.

Two unsexed birds Nos. 11352 from Perren Godda (collected by J. P. Cook, probably in Travancore) and 20718 from Perumalmalai, Palnis, have darker chocolate-brown heads and underparts, characters shared with a ♂ (No. 18862) from Badrama, Bamra, Orissa, listed under *H. s. perpulchra*.

737 *Halcyon smyrnensis perpulchra* Madarász (Singapore) Eastern Whitebreasted Kingfisher 4 : 269 (part)

17 : 7 ♂♂ 8 ♀♀ 2 o ?

1 *Sonawani, Balaghat* ; 1 *Chilka Lake, 1 Khandpara, 1 Badrama, Bamra, 1 Harbhangha Bund, Orissa* ; 2 *Baghowni, Tirhut, 1 Hazaria, Patherghatta, Bihar* ; 1 *Mornai T.E., Goalpara, 1 Dibrugarh, Assam* ; 1 *Mala, 1 Kani, 1 Singhalia,*

Chindwin ; 1 *Taunggyi*, *S. Shan States*, 2 *Temyak Chang Thayetmyo*, 1 *Prome Dt.*, *Burma*.

The measurements are under 735.

738 ***Halcyon smyrnensis saturator*** Hume (Andaman Islands) Andaman Whitebreasted Kingfisher 4 : 270

3 : 1 ♂ 2 ♀♀

1 Ferrarganj, 2 Wimberleyganj, S. Andamans.

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
♂	131	68	15	87
♀♀	127, 130	62, 67	15, 15	82, 82

The blue on the upperparts is of a different tint in each of the three, but two of them, a ♂ and a ♀, are definitely brighter than any of the other specimens of this species. The brown of the head and underparts is also darker and almost black. All three can be separated from the birds from continental India, both by colour and size.

739 ***Halcyon pileata*** (Boddaert) (China) Blackcapped Kingfisher 4 : 271

13 : 7 ♂♂ 5 ♀♀ 1 o ?

1 Ghana Sanctuary, Bharatpur ; 1 Sakalpatal, Surat Dangs ; 1 Kalyan, 1 Thana Creek, 1 Colaba, Bombay ; 2 Karwar, N. Kanara ; 4 Tirhut, Bihar ; 1 Narcondam I., Andamans ; 1 Trinkut, Central Nicobars.

Several have the breast feathers slightly flecked with black, a sign of immaturity. There is considerable variation in the extent of white and rufous on the underparts.

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
♂♂	129-133 av. 130	61-65 av. 62.5	15-16	78-84 av. 82
♀♀	123-130 av. 127.5	62-68 av. 64.5	15	78-84 av. 81
	(♂♀ 127-133	57-65	c. 15	83-88)

740 ***Halcyon chloris vidali*** Sharpe (Ratnagiri and Kelsi Creek, Konkan) Malabar Whitecollared Kingfisher 4 : 276

1 o ? Ratnagiri, Maharashtra.

Wing 112 (110-116) ; bill 46 (42-49) ; tarsus 15 (c. 16) ; tail 70 (70-73).

This was collected by G. W. Vidal on 1st February, 1878 and is one of our oldest specimens.

741 ***Halcyon chloris humii*** Sharpe (Siam to the Malay Peninsula and Sumatra ; type from Jaram, Selangor, Malay Peninsula) Eastern Whitecollared Kingfisher 4 : 275
nil.

742 ***Halcyon chloris davisoni*** Sharpe (Aberdeen, S. Andamans) Andaman Whitecollared Kingfisher 4 : 278

3 : 1 ♂ 2 ♀♀

2 Bakultala, Middle Andamans ; 1 Shoalbay Creek, S. Andamans.

Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
101♂, 105, 108 (1H ♂♀ 96-108)	43, 44, 47♂ 38-41	13, 14, 14 c. 14-15	61♂, 69, 73 63-72)

743 *Halcyon chloris occipitalis* (Blyth) (Central Nicobars) Nicobar
Whitecollared Kingfisher

4 : 277
(part)

9 : 3 ♂♂ 5 ♀♀ 1 o ?

5 Camorta, 3 Nancowry, 1 Trinkut, Central Nicobars.

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
♂♀	106-112 av. 108 (105-113)	43-48 av. 46 40-48	13-15 14-15	71-80 av. 73 65-72)

Juvenile ♂ No. 22469 from Nancowry is paler blue than the adults and resembles birds from Car Nicobar.

743a *Halcyon chloris* subsp. Car Nicobar Whitecollared Kingfisher

4 : 277
(part)

7 : 3 ♂♂ 4 ♀♀ Car Nicobar

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
♂♀	104-117 av. 109·7	42-46 av. 45	13-15	70-80 av. 73

In my Narcondam note (*JBNHS* 68 : 405) I have referred to the distinctness of this group from the other forms available and to my inability to name it due to lack of information regarding the 47 subspecies accepted in Peter's CHECKLIST.

(to be continued)